

Council

**Wednesday, 25 October 2006
Commencing at 5.30 pm**

REPORT OF THE MAYOR

**SUPPLEMENT TO THE AGENDA FOR A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL TO BE HELD IN
THE CIVIC CENTRE, 6 WAIPAREIRA AVENUE, LINCOLN, WAITAKERE CITY,
ON WEDNESDAY, 25 OCTOBER 2006, COMMENCING AT 5.30 PM.**

PART B - REPORT OF THE MAYOR

Towards a Greater Auckland Future

Over the past month we have seen the launch of the Metro Project from the Chamber of Commerce's Chief Executive Michael Barnett. I thought it was a very impressive launch and it certainly attracted the right kind of audience as well as a very positive speech, talking up Auckland yet again, from the Prime Minister Helen Clark who was asked to launch what was termed in the media sheet, a comprehensive action plan. Clark was at her enthusiastic best as indeed she was at the Digital Earth Summit where she made it clear she expected more out of Auckland than she was getting.

The Metro Project is indeed a framework for the future and links closely with the Champions for Auckland of which I am one, as I have been for the past decade or so. Unfortunately it seems the Metro Project launch got the same scrubbing as have other initiatives. Firstly there was a grumble from the front row and then a going over by the New Zealand Herald's Brian Rudman who called it a dull dollar-centric plan that offered nothing to the workers. Rudman does have a point but in saying that it would be nice if he could be a champion himself rather than always looking for the negative.

The one thing I disagree with Barnett over is dropping Auckland's City of Sails tagline. There's a bit of a story here and it goes like this. The slogan, one of the best I think around, was owned by the advertising agency that came up with it and they 'leased' it to Auckland for, if agency gossip is to be considered factual, around \$25,000 a year. Councils and mayors found this difficult to wear and in the mid 1990s we ceased to see it on council brochures or events. But it had done a great job. It was an iconic, memorable and very appropriate slogan for Auckland, the host to the America's Cup and truly a city of sails. Its removal would be short sighted because the currency it has built up over the years is incredibly strong and I would think the promotion and recall worth at least \$10m. I was surprised at Barnett's suggestion. He's obviously not done his homework. Taglines take years to grow on their audience and they need an enormous amount of money before people associate the tag with the city and its believability. Good on Wellington for keeping with its little beauty "Absolutely Positively Wellington". It's as good as "I Love New York". I couldn't tell you what London has but I'm sure there's one somewhere in the works.

But all this is a distraction when it boils down to what needs to be done to make this region a world class destination, the dream of the Metro Project. It's also about the quality of life and there have been enough reports on that to fill a small library, although many have been ignored or torn to pieces by mice posing as rats. I'd like a couple of dollars for every project launch I'd been to in the past 14 years. Everyone agrees it should happen but then they walk away from the event letting other people pick up the challenge.

But then, if you look around, there has been a quiet transformation of Auckland. In fact, daily it's become more user friendly, workable and a joy to be in. So I personally am not driven because I am unhappy with Auckland. Just the opposite in fact. I think it's a wonderful area and Waitakere is a gem but you know that anyway. I am driven by frustration at the slowness of projects I think could be of benefit to the present generation and not for that mystic 2020 I keep hearing about when everything perfect and wonderful will come about. I wouldn't mind next year being that nirvana. Why should we wait 14 years?



I have felt a greater Auckland with its cities intact would certainly offer a better, more sustainable future. And so when Grant Kirby asked me to come and listen to his presentation I went with an open mind. I came away impressed by his reasoned argument on a united region without losing identity or our own sense of worth. I wish Kirby well as I do all of the other projects drifting round at this time. Auckland has 490,000 ratepayers, 5480 bureaucrats, a \$337m wage bill, 110 councillors, 147 community board members and an \$8.9m councillors' wages bill. We only have 121 MPs to run the whole country. It's serious stuff and quite frankly I don't think it can or will continue much longer. If you step back and think about what we are indeed endeavouring to do to create a better future, a better opportunity, for generations to come we may not be looking through the right window.

I had an interview with Metro Magazine earlier this month and I provided a piece of commentary which I now pass on to you. If you think about the next election you are merely a politician; however if you think about the next generation you're a leader. And right now there is a dearth of leadership on these issues. Now that the mayors have had their flogging from both outside and in, it may be time to sit down together and collectively work out just what we might be able to achieve. And can the new strengthening of regional governance serve that purpose in the very tight timeframe that's been allocated? I think that might work in China but it mightn't work here. Already I'm hearing cries of the deadline being too tight and the process too complicated. Councillor Hulse and I will represent this Council and Councillor Battersby will serve as an alternate but we will not move forward until we've had a workshop and addressed the issues so the council feels comfortable with the go forward.

I have agreed to forward the agenda of the Mayoral Forum to all councillors as soon as I receive it. I would expect Councillors who have shown an interest in this forum to make the appropriate response back to me. It's about open relationships and supporting each other. I still have hope the greater Auckland regional idea stays alive and I think it will although it will not survive an election process. It needs at least two or three years to be developed and it's now over to government to look at this and address the issue. I hope government also looks at the term of office which I think is too short and leaves no time for visionary thinking and long term planning and action. I would hope government might look at extending the term of council to four years. This would sit comfortably with the work that needs to be done. These terms work internationally in good and big cities and they may very well be part of the answer we are looking for here.

As for the strengthening of the Auckland Regional Council, I am supportive although I have to say I've felt the Auckland Regional Council has already been particularly strong. I guess the work around this will be looking at how more effective and efficient this organisation and the region can be. I urge Councillors to consider what we can do collectively to work on crime, job creation, common consents processes and rating and regulations. Certainly we have to change our attitude and upskill ourselves in change. It's not easy and politicians certainly don't enjoy change but it has to be done and it's important.

The Mayoral Forum where this thinking was hatched is clearly under scrutiny by Councillors though rather than being a hotbed of conniving, selfish scoundrels the forum's members might just be seen as prepared to put their necks out for the good of the future. Let's see if out of the review come different and imaginative ways of governing this region.

Who will be next for the media guillotine? Right now, nothing seems to please Brian Rudman, whether it's the stadium or the art gallery. Everything is picked on and I wonder if there is a plan to just rubbish everything put up. I've yet to see one project cheered on. In a small country, with a small group of people, it seems nothing is ever good enough.

As I reminded the council at a recent meeting, support of this review means we would hopefully endorse not simply the same old same old but something new, exciting, innovative and workable. It's a bit like Dragon's Den where a range of new ideas are put up to a rich, shallow and gormless panel to be either chicken-pecked with scathing commentary or lavished with condescending, grovelling praise.



It's interesting that after these presentations, whether it be SMART or the Metro Project, the audience goes away to read the media reviews so they can then make up their minds which way to go. If local government and indeed government in this country are reduced to media polls then it's a sorry state we're in.

Which brings me to a few 'sexy' ideas to make greater Auckland even greater.

1. Make the new strengthening of Auckland governance robust, sustainable and committed to a true regional equitable future for us all.
2. Have electrification of the western rail line by 2010 with no questions asked.
3. Make domestic violence and graffiti real crimes against society.
4. Don't let the Rugby Union talk us out of a truly great national stadium on the Auckland Waterfront.
5. Cheer on the merger of the Ports of Auckland and Tauranga and see sustainability and wonderful development of the park area.
6. Ensure the RNZAF lets us share Whenuapai Airbase soon – because it just makes sense.
7. Accept tolling but only if it's fair and equitable and let's just get on with it.
8. Expect the Auckland media to admit that local government might just have some good, sound ideas.

On the Road with Local Government

M1-M111 I've spent an interesting month on the road with Local Government New Zealand and its tour of councils around the country to give them the chance to talk directly to the National Council about the state of local government, what needs to be fixed and what's needed. From Wellington to Christchurch, Gore and Rotorua we listened to a wide, varied and fascinating range of thoughts from participating councils who had 30 minutes to present their story. It too was a bit like Dragon's Den but at least we knew the subject and we didn't have to hand out wads of cash. The panel had a national chair, a policy analyst and a support staff member so it was a very tight group and we listened to a great deal. We read the submissions beforehand and some of the days were literally jammed with excellent and enlightened presentations. It was one of the most interesting and exciting programmes I have been involved in. Much of it of course was around rates but many of the submissions went into areas such as dog control and there were superb ideas about funding and numbers on councils and community boards. Naturally I was interested in how these related to Waitakere and in order to share the resource I have attached a number of the submissions at pages M1 to M111.

To me they make so much sense in as much as local government is reeling from over commitment, lack of funding and what we are expected to do in water, waste water, drinking water standards and sewage disposal. Many councils are or will soon face huge bankrupting costs. Areas such as holiday resorts are simply unable to cope with what needs to be delivered and many councils are finding drinking water standards devastating to deliver although there was common agreement on the health issues that the cost is becoming prohibitive. I was particularly interested in the Coromandel suggestion about why boat owners in this country do not have any registration. And that got me thinking and so I bring you my Gone Fishing tale:

Last Saturday I decided to go fishing. I called my dog who is registered and took my registered trailer out of the garage. My son decided to join me with his jet ski. He turned up with his truck which is registered and his registered trailer on which sat his registered jet ski. Now it was time to put on my registered trailer my unregistered boat. Strange that in this country full of marina, billions of dollars worth of expensive craft and with the huge cost of maritime safety and rescue that not one boat, big or small, has identification, a number plate or a traceable registration. When I brought up the subject at council it didn't get a huge round of applause. Maybe that's because we are an over regulated country anyway. But it seems someone in central government should ask the question, is it not time to consider a requirement that all boats be at least registered? So how strong is the boating lobby I thought while motoring out of West Harbour past the dredge that was scooping away the most silted up marina in New Zealand and which will cost millions in the years ahead. Makes you think eh?



But back to the roadshow submissions which have many new and interesting suggestions. You will be interested I am sure to come to grips with the devolution of non core functions and the imposition of additional costs. Please read this material. The papers cover a wide variety of topics and make interesting bedtime reading. I was particularly interested in code of conduct and how the rest of New Zealand deals with its social and economic issues. I'm also including the Waitakere submissions to ensure you also read what we presented. Local Government New Zealand will now consider all of the papers and report back in due course.

Milestones

Obituary – Brian Slater

Brian Slater was a man who devoted most of his adult life to the community he lived in and he will be sorely missed. Brian was a Waitemata City Councillor for 12 years before its amalgamation with other Boroughs in 1989 and he served as a Henderson Community Board member for nine years. Brian helped establish the Freyberg Community School and was the first president of the Henderson branch of Jaycees. He was involved with the Oratia and Waitemata Soccer Clubs and was chairman of the Eastern Bays Community Board when he died on 7 October 2006. Brian is survived by his wife Kath, his two sons and a grandchild. Our thoughts are with them at this sad time.

Obituary – Ian Gibson

Ian Gibson was most popularly known when president of the Te Atatu RSA from 1998 to 2006. He was well respected throughout Auckland and indeed New Zealand. It was only failing health that prevented him from taking on wider and more significant responsibility. The extent of the esteem in which Ian was held is measured in his award of Life Membership of the RSA and subsequently a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit. Before moving to Te Atatu Peninsula Ian was a prominent member of the Massey Rugby Club and eventually served as president. Our thoughts are with Ian's wife Jean and their family at this sad time.

Sir Hugh Kawharu

As I said in my last mayoral report, the sad news of Sir Hugh's passing reached me while I was in Australia and I was sorry I was unable to attend his tangi. However I did want to pay tribute to this great man and distinguished Ngati Whatua elder. Sir Hugh was born in Ashburton in 1927 and had an international reputation as a scholar. He was a great supporter of my initiative to bring the waka taua (war canoe) to Auckland for the 1990 celebrations and he and I served on many committees together over the years, most recently the Aotea Centre. A couple of years ago Karel Whitten-Hannah and I took Sir Hugh on a journey through the Waitakere Ranges towards the Huia Ridge and up Te Toiokawharu, the highest peak in the ranges at 474 metres and named after Sir Hugh's ancestor. It was a great trip and Sir Hugh rang his late wife Freda on the cellphone from the summit. I felt that in a small way I had repaid his friendship of many years.

Sir Hugh was knighted in 1989 for his services to the Maori people and education and was awarded the Order of New Zealand in 2002. A man of great wisdom and knowledge Sir Hugh's death was a huge loss for Maoridom and New Zealand.

Kua hinga tetahi totara o Te Wao Nui a Tane.
No reira e te rangatira, e Hugh,
Kua hoki koe ki te wa kainga, ki Reweti,
Ara, kua riro koe ki te kopu o Papatuanuku.
Moe mai e te hoa, moe mai I roto I te moengaroa.

A great totara from the forest of Tane has fallen. Hugh, chief that you are. You have returned to your home, to Reweti. Moreover you have returned to the womb of Mother Earth. And so sleep my friend, rest in eternal slumber.



Diwali

This was a hugely successful event this year and the organising committee should feel very proud of what it achieved. Congratulations to Ann Pala, Monica Sharma and the rest of the Waitakere Ethnic Board team involved. I particularly enjoyed the festivities because they allow for the integration of our wonderful ethnic communities. Cultures of the Indian community were performed by diverse people including pākehā, Chinese and Indians of Fiji, India, Sri Lanka, Rajasthan, Punjab and Gujerat. Performances from Bolivia, Philippine and Korea were also featured and there were segments of Bollywood and traditional performances with some plays and great singers and dances, all kicked off with Maori blessings, fireworks and speeches. The Prime Minister Helen Clark was, I can tell you, very impressed with the festivities and the venue, The Trusts Stadium which has become known as the 'House of Diwali'. Also in attendance were Chris Carter, David Cunliffe, Lynne Pillay, Paula Bennett, Jackie Blue, Rajen Prasad, Sam Sefuiva and Ajit Singh. Again, my congratulations to Ann and her team.

Moon Festival

Waitakere City successfully celebrated its fourth Moon Festival on October 6 and 7 at the New Lynn Community Centre. This festival is quickly becoming an icon event for the City and each year grows from strength to strength as its reputation grows.

The Chinese Moon Festival is on the 15th of the 8th lunar month. It's also known as the Mid-Autumn Festival. Chinese culture is deeply imbedded in traditional festivals. Just like Christmas and Thanksgiving in the west, the Moon Festival is one of the most important traditional events for the Chinese. It's full of legendary stories. Legend says that Chang Er flew to the moon, where she has lived ever since. You might see her dancing on the moon during the Moon Festival. The Moon Festival is also an occasion for family reunions. When the full moon rises, families get together to watch the full moon, eat moon cakes**, and sing moon poems. With the full moon, the legend, the family and the poems, you can't help thinking that this is really a perfect world. That is why the Chinese are so fond of the Moon Festival.

The Moon Festival is also a romantic one. A perfect night for the festival is if it is a quiet night without a silk of cloud and with a little mild breeze from the sea. A great number of poetry has been devoted to this romantic festival in the hope that the Moon Festival will bring you happiness.

This year about 5000 people passed through the doors of the Community Centre to witness this very special event, participate in some of the activities and to try all of the wonderful foods available from the various stalls. Friday's opening evening, witnessed by a packed hall, also saw a spectacular fireworks display, so real that concerned citizens called the Fire Service, convinced the Community Centre was on Fire, a rather unexpected finale to the evening, but adding more colour and noise, none-the-less.



A big thank you to Councillor Peter Chan and his organising committee as well as our own internal organisers. The festival was an outstanding success and I have inserted a photo below.



Festival of Cultures

This festival was also truly outstanding, again with thanks to the Waitakere Ethnic Board, and we got to experience performances from a wide variety of cultures including Brazilian, Samoan, Korean, Chinese, Japanese, Indian, Cook Island, Spanish and Middle Eastern. It's estimated nearly 5000 people visited on the day and that's just great. Again, our local MPs and dignitaries were in attendance and the event was covered by the media.

Men's Health Matters

As you know I want the Council Chamber to be used by the community for as wide a range of activities as possible so I was pleased we hosted a men's health focus group organised by Health West's Dr Lannes Johnston, also a good friend of this city and the Trustee of the Wellness Out West Trust. Those in attendance were asked a number of questions relating to the importance of men's health in this country and heard a number of statistics that can only be described as of major concern. The focus group heard that the key benefits of men's health activities identified from a variety of literature are raised awareness of health issues, connecting men with health and other support networks and creating behaviour change around health risk factors.

The group was very committed to New Zealand having a policy on men's health and while the starting point could include clear and simple goals eventually there would be a five year programme to improve men's health. The initiative would seek to achieve measurable improvements in:

- Increasing community and family / whānau awareness for men's health issues;
- Improving men's knowledge of their own health issues;



- Earlier identification of health risk and disease;
- Improved appropriate access of health services;
- Improved men's self management of health risks and disease;
- Improved health sector response to cancer, heart disease and diabetes screening;
- Improved health sector response to guide-line based management of chronic conditions.

Ideally the programme design and delivery would be managed by the Ministry of Health and to that end the forum resolved to approach the Minister of Health with a view to promoting a national men's health campaign. I think the focus group session, its outcome and its plans are to be congratulated and supported and I am proud such a major breakthrough happened in Waitakere.

Moving On



Pete Sewell and Dean Nuralli (pictured) have moved on to new challenges and both will be missed as they were very popular members of staff. Pete was involved in the building of Waitakere Central and The Trusts Stadium. He was also the special projects engineer on the construction of our three newest libraries in Glen Eden, New Lynn and Henderson. Pete started here nine years ago in a temporary position and worked in project management design and parks before taking on the special project job four years ago. Pete is moving to the private sector to work with Suresh Ngaiya and will be working on some Waitakere projects – the new Civil Defence Headquarters, a new headquarters for Netball Waitakere at Te Pai and the stadium's new grandstand.



Dean is a fantastic guy with a terrific personality and has been with the council for more than 20 years. Dean started here as a trainee health inspector and worked his way through the ranks as an environmental health officer and compliance manager before his most recent role as developers' relationship manager. And of course as you know Dean was the face of Waitakere on two television programmes – the Filth Files and The Inspectors. Dean has a personal and very sensitive feeling for people with obsessive compulsive disorder who hoard things and has served us well with great humour and true humility. He is off to work in a private health consultancy firm which will take him all over the country auditing food and safety programmes. Both Dean and Pete leave us with enormous love and respect and we wish them well.

Garry Moore

M112-M115 It was with sadness I received a call from Christchurch Garry Moore to tell me he was going to announce he wouldn't stand again. I've had a fantastic working relationship with Garry and as I said in my letter to the Press, if New Zealand had a Nobel Prize I would proudly pin it on the chest of Mayor Garry Moore whose leadership over the past nine years has been one of understated excellence in local government. Garry's wisdom, understanding of New Zealand and its complexities, his passion for job creation and for his wonderful city are second to none and he has done it all with a wonderful sense of Irish Catholic / Kiwi humour. Christchurch has been very well served by Garry and I think he will be seen as one of the most visionary mayors despite being responsible for cutting back the number of councillors. Garry was the founder chair of the Mayors Taskforce for Jobs and is vice president of Mayors for Peace. His commitment to social injustice and the many New Zealanders who, for whatever reason, find themselves marginalised is unsurpassed. He will be sadly missed and the next successful candidate will have huge shoes to fill. Indeed they will need a large mooring rope for shoelaces. I have attached at pages M112 to M115 a copy of Garry's speech to his Council in which he announced he would not be standing again.

Welcome

A warm Waitakere welcome to Dave Davies who takes up his role as Waitemata District Health Board's Chief Executive Officer at the end of next month. Mr Davies has experience in psychiatric nursing and a Bachelor of Arts degree in social sciences. He has worked for the Auckland Area Health Board among other organisations. I am sure you join with me in wishing Mr Davies all the best in his new job and I am sure we will meet him very soon. I would also like to take this opportunity to formally welcome new District Commander, Superintendent Viv Rickard who is with us at this October Council meeting. We as a council enjoy a good working relationship with the police and I am sure this will continue in Mr Rickard's reign. Clearly Mr Rickard is going to be a very busy man. I am including below a copy of a letter from North Shore's Mayor George Wood to Police Commissioner Howard Broad for your information and which makes disturbing reading.

Dear Howard

59% drug offences + 53% robberies = Auckland: NZ's crime capital

The latest crime figures make for disturbing reading if you live within the Auckland region, our country's undoubted crime capital.

As Mayor of North Shore City and a former Police officer, I am appealing directly to you to strengthen the leadership of the force's Auckland command structure.

My fellow Mayor, John Law of Rodney District, supports my view that the increase in drug, property and violent crime across the region demands strong action, starting with the appointment of an Assistant Commissioner in Auckland.



Your Auckland officers are battle-weary and no wonder given the horrendous consequences of P-fuelled crimes. There are some 1896 separate “new drug” offences plaguing North Shore, Waitakere, Auckland and Counties Manukau districts. This staggering toll accounts for 59 percent of all such offending in New Zealand.

It is no surprise then to see the corresponding figure of 53 percent being the Auckland region’s share of all robberies committed nationwide.

We have barely one-third of the national population in our region but house more than half of the criminals who are becoming more and more destructive.

In past years I asked your predecessor Rob Robinson and former Police Minister George Hawkins to reinforce Auckland’s command structure. It’s been drifting and the time for action is now.

I would appreciate the opportunity to discuss this matter with you directly.

Kind regards
George Wood
Mayor
North Shore City

Waitakere Fun Run

Councillor Cooper and I thoroughly enjoyed taking part in this year’s Waitakere Fun Run. The event, the ninth, was started by Councillor Flaunty and we left from the Douglas Track at The Trusts Stadium, went up Central Park Drive to Lincoln Rd, down Lincoln Rd and into Sel Peacock Drive. Then it was on to the fitness trail to Flanshaw Rd, back into Vodanovich Rd onto Central Park and back onto the Douglas Track for the finish. For those doing the full 21 kilometres there was a second lap. This year, more than ever the Waitakere Fun Run showed just how much it has become part of our city. In the first year only 32 percent of those taking part came from Waitakere and there were more over 50s than under 20s. This year there were 123 under 18s and local high schools used the event as part of their NCEA credits. Sixty seven percent of the entries came from Waitakere and there were more than 1000 finishers. The funds raised from the event will go to the Don Oliver Youth Sports Foundation and the North Piha Surf Club.

Saved – The Overlander

M116

I added my and this Council’s support to the campaign to save the Overlander train service and have attached a thank you letter from Sue Kedgley at pages M116. I am sure you will agree with me it was important this vital rail service continue. It seemed inconceivable that with all the knowledge and awareness coming out of the environmental workshops that anyone would consider pulling a train service. All of the speakers at the Digital Earth Summit thought it was bizarre and so did we.

Mau Performance - Requiem

The Corban Art Estate is the home of extraordinary dance performance group Mau and those of us who have followed the group’s amazing career and Lemi Ponifasio’s direction have fallen under the spell of probably New Zealand’s premier dance performance group. I am so pleased they are based in this city. The group’s new work which premiered at Sky City is called Requiem and the troupe will soon be off with it to Vienna with it for the 250th anniversary of Mozart.



Requiem is performed on a bare stage except for two massive giant trunks that could either be kauri or palms and this is only the beginning of a work that combines light, shade, life and death. The secret of Mau is its controlled artistry and strength as well as dances that are absolutely breathtaking in their ability to move forward, backwards and all around. The dancers seem to literally float above the stage or fly like birds held aloft. It is one of the most dazzling, awesome pieces of theatre you will see in a long time. The technology that supports a Mau performance is space like where sounds of surf, voice and music are combined as rain and blood oozes or bursts from jackets and the bodies of the performers. Be prepared to be unnerved. The work is often so solemn and ritualistic it evokes grief and sadness. Mau captures the most amazing senses and sends the audience out reeling. Requiem may be performed once more before it goes to Vienna. Councillors will be invited and I urge you to attend.

Graffiti Update

I thought you should know the Italians have had enough of graffiti. How interesting that those fun loving, easy going Italians would finally spit the dummy but they have. The destruction of their villages, town centres and the blights on the urban landscape and architecture - ranging from 'wild style' to 'bombing' - has simply got too much. The Italians call graffiti perpetrators 'writers'. They gave us the word graffiti meaning to draw or scribble so they have at least taken back their name. Milan's local government says about 40 percent of the city's buildings have been sprayed on. That's around 40,000 in total. One reason Milan and Rome have made no headway against graffiti over the past decade is because it's been regarded in law as a minor offence, punishable at most by 40 days of house arrest or up to six months of public service. But now they are cracking down. The plan is to have fines for those caught in the act go up from \$3000 to – wait for it - \$30,000 or two and a half years in prison. So into the slammer will go the graffiti artists. I thought you should know.

Deja Vu

M117 Nothing is ever new. I've attached at pages M117 a poll protest poster from the '60s for your amusement.

And Finally

You know I always care about Councillors' health and although I haven't seen packets of potato chips anywhere except the mayoral lounge a new campaign in Britain spells out just what's in those delicious crispy snacks. Eating one pack a day, which I'm sure you've been guilty of, adds up to the equivalent of drinking five litres of cooking oil every year. In Britain, where half of all kids admit to eating at least one bag of crisps a day, there has been a call for urgent action and a shocking advertising campaign with the slogan 'what goes into crisps goes into you' has been designed. It features a photograph of a child drinking cooking oil. I'm glad chips have been taken off the tuck shop menus but if you go to any day care you will find the mini packets are an essential part of the tots' day pack. Start 'em young says the advertising industry and you'll capture them for life.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Report of the Mayor be received.

RA Harvey, QSO, JP
MAYOR OF WAITAKERE CITY